



Forever float that standard sheet!
Where breathes the foe but falls before us?
With Freedom's soil beneath our feet,
And Freedom's banner streaming o'er us

From Washington.

Mr. Geo. M. Brien called upon us to-day, on his way home from Washington, which place he left on Thursday last. He represents that there are about forty thousand troops in Washington and its neighborhood. The capital is now safe, and the administration is about to make a vigorous demonstration against Virginia. The first movement will probably be made against Harper's Ferry. The greatest difficulty experienced by the administration heretofore, has been from the want of fidelity of many of the officers of the navy and army; and this has often delayed and crippled their movements.

Mr. O'Brien came through by way of Annapolis. From Washington City to Annapolis the railroad is guarded by the army. At Annapolis Junction, eighteen miles from Washington, a large body of troops is posted. This is the main military position between Washington and Annapolis. The whole length of the railroad to Annapolis is guarded by soldiers, posted every four miles. They live in tents made of cedar and pine boughs, which present a picturesque appearance. Every thing along the line was in perfect order, exhibiting through military discipline.

At Annapolis, there are a large number of troops who occupy the town and the public buildings. This is considered the most important military position with regard to the capital, and the number of troops vary from eight to ten thousand, as they are constantly arriving and departing for Washington.

Annapolis is an old-fashioned looking town, built in the style of the reign of Queen Anne, and an old church is pointed out erected at that time. The mansion of Charles Carroll is on one of the highest points in the city, and is a quaint old building. The Catholic cathedral is the most prominent building in the place, and has the Union flag floating over it. The Catholic religion is predominant in this region, and they are all for the Union. The scenery about this old place is fine, and the location of the city upon the Chesapeake bay very pleasant.

From Annapolis to Perryville the passage is by steamboat up the bay. Old residences are seen upon the shores, upon either hand, bearing the same quaint appearance as those in the town. The bay was crowded by small craft, and several war vessels, all bearing the flag of our Union, and as the boat passed them the cheering was constant and hearty for the Star Spangled Banner.

When Mr. O'Brien landed at Perryville, it was guarded by a large body of troops. This place is in Maryland opposite Havre de Grace, and at the junction of the Susquehanna river with Chesapeake bay. The troops concentrate here from all the northern and western states. He met a part of the advance guard of the eight thousand Ohio troops at this place, the other and larger portion having left Harrisburg by the railroad direct for Baltimore, where it is reported they arrived at 10 o'clock on Friday last, and opened communication "through Baltimore," under orders from Gen. Patterson, who has command of the western division. Every train met from Perryville to Pittsburgh had troops on board, and at every little railroad station troops were drilling and preparing to move forward towards Washington; the same may be said of the whole route from Pittsburgh to this place, and the excitement continues intense and unabated. At Chicago the feeling is so great that no sentiment is tolerated which can be construed into disloyalty.

From information received from reliable sources at Washington, it is believed that there are not more than 5,000 secession troops at Richmond and 1200 at Harper's Ferry, but large bodies of southern troops are moving from Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee, which may never form a junction at Richmond. It is expected that a movement will be made by the government to cut them off.

Mr. O'Brien gives an interesting account of the operations of the "Clay Battalion," at Washington, from the 18th of April to the 4th of May. They acted as a special police, during the reign of terror, which succeeded the attack on the troops at Baltimore. It was ascertained that a concerted plan to take the city of Washington and massacre the Union men, was to have been carried out at that time, which had been adopted by the secessionists throughout that region. This battalion was composed of two companies, the first commanded by David Webb of New York, and the second by J. E. Vinton of this state, and were mostly northwestern men, the largest number on guard night and day, at the White House, Navy Yard, Capitol and Treasury buildings. After Cassius M. Clay left, they were under the command of General Nye. When the troops arrived, this battalion was disbanded, and each man received an honorable discharge, signed by the President and the Secretary of War, specifying the particular and confidential service which they so faithfully discharged.

Last Night's Report.

WASHINGTON, May 11. Herald's special says it is the intention of the rebels to begin the conflict immediately. They claim that the Montgomery government is too slow. Jeff. Davis has been expected at Richmond during the last eight days.

Gov. Leitch said that no definite plan of operations had yet been determined upon. Capt. Meigs has been reconnoitering the heights overlooking Washington with a view of erecting fortifications.

Gov. Leitch said that he had written to the officers commanding at Harper's Ferry to withdraw his forces from Maryland.

The rebels are erecting heavy batteries at Jefferson Rock, commanding the Virginia Maryland side of the Potomac, also other approaches. When the government gets ready to march the rebels will be specially dislodged.

Army officers from Cairo report not the slightest fear of an attack; plenty of troops to hold it against any force from the south.

Washington Tribune correspondent says H. J. Perry has been appointed secretary of legation at Madrid.

Officers returned from reconnoitering say that 6,000 troops are at Richmond. Several southern regiments expected daily.

Gov. Leitch is hourly communicating with the Montgomery cabinet and acting under their orders. Five thousand four hundred troops are at Lynchburg—more expected.

Advices from Louisiana state that there is danger from insurrection. It is thought that the first regiment of Pennsylvania artillery will be sent to occupy Arlington Heights.

New York, May 12. The Great Eastern made the entire passage in 9 days and 13 hours.

In the house of lords on the 29th, Lord Woodhouse stated in reply to a question, that the government recognized no right or obligation to interfere in the conflict unhappily commenced in America, either diplomatically or otherwise. The theatre London press sympathize largely with the loyal forces, anticipating an early triumph for the government. The Times fears a serious conflict if the north are determined to force obedience.

The North Star arrived from Panama bringing \$8,000 in specie. George M. Smith arrived in charge of a prize; had on board gun carriages for the rebels.

HARRISBURG, May 12. Thirty-one freight cars with rough seats for soldiers are immediately opposite Harrisburg, on the Northern Central railroad, and Gen. Patterson is evidently intended for immediate transportation.

An attempt was made this morning to tear up the track of the Northern Central railroad 14 miles this side of Baltimore, but was detected before much injury was done.

PERKYVILLE, May 12. Special Herald—Rumored skirmishing at Alexandria today with a company of Virginia cavalry.

Gen. Butler, with 50 men and 2 pieces of artillery, left on a steamer this afternoon on sea and service.

Messenger from Gov. Hicks to Governor Leitch has returned from Richmond, says Virginia expected 80,000 confederate troops by Thursday last.

Union men here are indignant at the occupation of the Maryland side by Virginia. A sudden movement of rebels at Harper's Ferry towards the Relay House is feared by many. Judges of military affairs say Virginia army must soon fight or disperse.

The Secretary of the Navy is hurrying forward measures of blockade, and informs friends that by the time Charleston and Savannah experiences its effects New Orleans will be closed.

BUFFALO, May 11. Five volunteer companies left to-day for camp. Hon. Millard Fillmore in command. The fire companies and one regiment escorted them to the depot.

PHILADELPHIA, May 11. A grand ovation was given. Col. Anderson is in this city today. He was escorted to Independence Hall by military where he held a levee.

ANNAPOLIS, May 11. The Winan's steam gun now guards the Viaduct at the Relay House.

A Baltimore paper stated that when the gun was captured it was going out for practice. The agent in Charleston admits that it was on the way to Harper's Ferry.

Considerable cotton has accumulated at Old Point Comfort, which has been taken from the rebel vessels.

The Maryland quota of troops will be called immediately after the legislature adjourns. There are already four regiments ready.

NEW YORK, May 11. It is said negotiations are pending for chartering the Great Eastern for United States service. Reported federal authorities took possession of the custom house at Alexandria, Va. No resistance made.

WASHINGTON, May 11. Virginia rebels are fortifying themselves at Harper's Ferry, and reinforcements are constantly arriving.

James Dickinson of Alexandria, Va., has been offered the Collectorship there. He is loyal, and his appointment is considered significant that the government intends protecting its officers.

SANDY HOOK, N. Y., May 11. The steamship Great Eastern, via Mill Haven, of the 23, has arrived off this point.

In the House of Commons Mr. Gregory had postponed for a fortnight his motion relative to the recognition of the southern confederacy.

WASHINGTON, May 11. Special to the Times—Government has decided that in the case of Massachusetts the governor may select from the regiments tendered, the number required for the war, this applies to other states.

Some South Carolina troops have arrived at Harper's Ferry.

FREDERICK, May 11. Special to the Times—The legislature adjourns Monday, till the 5th of June.

A lot of horses and cattle on cars, en route for Baltimore were taken by the Virginia troops near Harper's Ferry to-day. The Union feeling in western Virginia is daily growing stronger.

NEW YORK, May 11. It has been decided upon to keep two regiments encamped on the battery here to assist the police in case of necessity. The Nashville Banner of the 8th, says the vessels arrived at New Orleans Monday, from Europe with a quarter million stand of arms for the confederate states. About 60 boxes of guns and a large amount of ammunition had reached Nashville from the south.

CHICAGO, May 11. Evening Journal says we have reliable information to the effect that there is a large body of rebels at and about Memphis, who are mustered for attack on some point north, supposed Cairo. Exact number is not known but generally estimated at 30,000. Respectable citizens of Memphis do not

sympathize with them. Spies report, constantly watching military operations at the north. On four separate occasions they have manned and armed steamers for an attack on Cairo, but before they started, intelligence was received that made those in command, deem it safe to defer enterprise. Informant says that the rebels are so anxious to fight, that they threaten to start off on their own account, if not soon led into the field.

FREDERICK, May 11. Special to the Times via Chambersburg. A resolution was offered in the House that members from Baltimore were illegally elected, and their seats be declared vacant, was referred to a special committee.

It is reported here that an armistice for sixty days had been proposed by the South. Several rebels from Baltimore arrested to stay at Annapolis.

Report of committee on federal relations concerning President Lincoln, and applauding the Southern Confederacy were endorsed as the doctrine of the legislature.

St. Louis, May 11. Gen. Frost's brigade was released from the arsenal this evening. Officers on parole of honor, and the men took oath not to bear arms against the U. S. government during the present war.

Report having gained evidence that federal troops had gone to Jefferson City to take Governor Jackson prisoner, and disperse the legislature, George B. Taylor, President of the road, authoritatively contradicted the rumor; he says troops at the Pacific depot are simply stationed there to see that no troops or munitions of war are transported to or from that city.

The management of the money bridge, which will necessitate change of cars.

The Governor however has caused one span of the Osage bridge to be destroyed, which will necessitate change of cars.

Two regiments of the Home Guard were patrolling the streets to preserve order, and about one hundred are stationed about the Democratic office. Several shooting affrays occurred during the day, but the city is quiet to-night, and a heavy rain is now falling.

A large body of troops came down on the Alton & Chicago road this afternoon, and passed on to Belleville, Illinois, about twelve miles from here.

WHEELING, Va., May 12. Immense Union demonstration last night. Eloquent speeches were made, Pierpont and others taking most determined ground never to submit to Jeff. Davis, and urging united action for Western Virginia, in favor of immediate division of the State. The suggestion was enthusiastically received.

The United States flag will be raised on the Custom House to-morrow.

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News of the surrender of Camp Jackson created a feeling of excitement at Jefferson City, and Harris military bill passed both houses in fifteen minutes. Jeff. Davis has been expected at Richmond during the last eight days.

Another commotion was created on the reception of a despatch, stating that a large force of volunteers had left this city for Jefferson.

The powder recently purchased here was immediately sent into the country, and the state treasury removed to a place of security.

Large numbers of citizens enrolled themselves in the Home Guard, and several hundred troops are expected from the surrounding counties.

In obedience to a call of the governor, a secret session of the legislature was held after midnight. A bill passed both houses extending power over the police commissioners, giving the governor ample means for suppressing riots and insurrectionary movements throughout the state.

About a thousand Illinois volunteers are now stationed at Cassville, seven miles east of here.

Special despatch to the Chicago Tribune. CAIRO, May 11. The news of the troubles at St. Louis, when received here, created great sensation in the camp. Speculations are rife as to the result of the fight just begun, and the share our boys will have in it.

Large flat boats are continually passing along the river. Two or three of your agents are here, and are examining them as much needed.

Good India rubber blankets and overcoats are badly wanted by the men, and will be greatly conducive to their health.

The uniforms of the brigade are expected on Wednesday.

Great numbers of people are constantly arriving from the south by the upward bound steamers. Their report of the condition of affairs there, and of the atrocities of the secessionists, challenge belief.

No orders were received from Springfield to stop the steamer Lackland, from St. Louis, laden with provisions for New Orleans, therefore she passed down to-day without interruption. She is only one of a large number within the past week.

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